

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7290**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 424**

**DATE PREPARED: Jan 7, 2002**

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Traffic Control Signals in High School Zones.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** James Sperlik

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**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                          **X DEDICATED**  
                          **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill requires the Department of Transportation (INDOT) to erect a traffic control signal in the school zone on the state highway on which a high school is located if: (1) the school corporation that maintains the high school; (2) the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the high school; and (3) the executive of a unit of local government that contains the high school; jointly petition the Department for erection of the traffic control signal. It requires the school corporation to pay 50% of the total cost of erecting the traffic control signal. The bill allows a school corporation to use capital project fund money to pay the school corporation's share of the cost.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2002.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The Department of Education reports that, as of the 2000-2001 school year, there were 1,960 public schools in the state. A search of school addresses reveals that there is a minimum of 74 schools located on a state highway. Of these, 37 are high schools. (Because of data limitations, the actual number of schools located on state highways could be significantly greater.) The INDOT estimates that the cost to erect a new traffic signal (stop light) is about \$35,000. The bill provides that the INDOT is responsible for half of the cost, and the school district is responsible for the other half. The fund affected is the State Highway Fund. The specific fiscal impact will depend upon local actions.

[If all 37 high schools known to be located on a state highway were to request that a stoplight be erected, the total cost would be \$1,295,000. The exposure to the state, through INDOT, for these schools would be \$647,500.] Because of the data limitations, the exposure to the state actually could be much greater.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** The bill provides that the INDOT is responsible for half of the cost of a new traffic signal, and the school district is responsible for the other half. The specific impact to school corporations will depend upon local actions.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Transportation.

**Local Agencies Affected:** School districts which request a stoplight to be erected at a school located on a state highway.

**Information Sources:** INDOT estimates; Department of Education.